

Appl. No. 10/622,668  
Response to Office Action of October 9, 2007

Attorney Docket No. FSF-031391

**REMARKS**

Submitted herewith is a Declaration filed under 37 CFR 132.

It will be clearly understood from the Declaration that the unexpectedly remarkable effects of the present invention can be obtained even when the ingredients contained therein (namely, the photosensitive silver halide, the non-photosensitive organic silver salt, the reducing agent and the binder) are varied as long as it satisfied the requirement of: using the reducing agent represented by the formula (R2) with an amount of 5 to 40% by mol or less relative to a total amount of the reducing agents under the condition of the specific combinatorial utilization of the reducing agent represented by the formula (R1) and the reducing agent represented by the formula (R2).

It should be noted that the phthalazine compound, which is not necessarily contained in the photothermographic material of the present invention, is also used and subjected to manipulation in the experiments of the Declaration in view of a skilled persons' knowledge that a phthalazine compound generally provides large effects to tone and tone stability of photothermographic materials. The data shown in the Declaration would thus further support the Applicant's position that the unexpectedly remarkable effects of the present invention can be obtained even when the ingredients contained therein are varied as long as it satisfied the requirement regarding the reducing agents.

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In view of the foregoing remarks and attached Declaration, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims currently pending in the application are in condition for allowance; early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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